



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/798,496	03/11/2004	Michael Kwiccen	00216-618001	6314
26161 7590 02/05/2007 FISH & RICHARDSON PC P.O. BOX 1022 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022			EXAMINER ALIE, GHASSEM	
			ART UNIT 3724	PAPER NUMBER
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE 3 MONTHS		MAIL DATE 02/05/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER	

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/798,496	Applicant(s) KWIECIEN, MICHAEL	
	Examiner Ghassem Alie	Art Unit 3724	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 June 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-46 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 11, 17, 23, and 37-46 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10, 12-16, 18-22, and 24-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-10, 12-16, 18-22, and 24-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tseng et al. (5,956,848), hereinafter Tseng, in view of Wdpwik (5,756,081). Regarding claim 1, Tseng teaches a wet shaving system 10 including a skin engagement portion including a shaving aid composite 14. Tseng also teaches a shaving aid matrix 46 including a polymer and a shaving aid. See col. 3, lines 8-15. Tseng does not explicitly teach that the shaving aid matrix 46 includes a plurality of exfoliating elements having abrasive particles. However, Wdowik teaches a plurality of exfoliating elements that is used with a shaving aid composite which could be in a solid form. See col. 2, lines 55-61 and col. 3, lines 22-60 in Wdowik. Wdowik also teaches that the exfoliating elements have abrasive particles. See col. 3, lines 54-60 in Wdowik. It should be noted that the shaving aid composite in Tseng is solid, and Wdowik teaches that the exfoliating elements with particles can be used in a solid shaving composite. It should be noted that the shaving aid matrix of the razors also is considered to be a solid shaving composition. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to provide Tseng's shaving aid matrix with a plurality of exfoliating elements, as taught by Wdowik, in order to enhance exfoliation of the deed skin and removal of grease and oils.

Regarding claims 2-4 and 13-14, Tseng teaches everything noted above including that the polymer comprises of a water-insoluble polymer which could be polyethylene. Tseng also teaches that the shaving aid could have a colorant. See col. 3, lines 16-37 in Tseng. Tseng also teaches that the shaving aid includes polyethylene oxide and vitamin E. See col. 3, lines 37-65 in Tseng.

Regarding claim 5, Tseng, as modified by Wdowik, teaches everything noted above including a first section that is considered to be shaving aid matrix 46 and a second section 44, 48 having a second polymer. Tseng also teaches that the first section or second section further includes a shaving aid.

Regarding claims 6-7, as best understood, Tseng, as modified by Wdowik, teaches that the exfoliating elements include polymer and mineral oil. It should be noted that the abrasive particles in Wdowik could be polymeric particles. See col. 3, lines 55-60. It should be noted that the use of other abrasive elements or exfoliating elements are well known in the art such as taught by Ruben (6,461,599). See col. 2, lines 35-50 in Ruben.

Regarding claims 8-10 and 11, Tseng, as modified above, does not expressly teach that the exfoliating elements are in a form of microcapsules having an external surface and an internal surface. However, Official Notice is taken that the use of shaving aid in a form microcapsules are well known in the art. It appears that claims 8-10 and 12 are directed to a completely different Species than the rest of the claims. However, the use of shaving aid having a microcapsules having different shaving agents are well known in the art such as taught by Booth (4,170,821).

Regarding claim 15, Tseng, as modified by Wdowik, teaches everything noted above, including that the exfoliating elements comprises a colorant. It should be noted when the polymer or the shaving aid includes a colorant the exfoliating elements which are embedded into the polymer also naturally include a colorant. In addition, Wexler et al. (6,295,733) teaches elements 21 that are embedded into a polymer include a colorant.

Regarding claims 16, 18-22, and 25-36, Tseng, as modified by Wdowik, teaches all the limitation set forth in those claims. It should be noted that Tseng teaches that one of the sections includes a water-insoluble polymer, both sections comprise of a shaving aid; the first section is on the top of the second section, the first section and second section also could be different color as being formed from a different material, at least one of the first section or the second section includes a colorant, and the shaving aid and the exfoliating element are disposed in a single layer.

### ***Response to Arguments***

3. Applicant's arguments that an artisan would not have had a reasonable expectation of success in adding an ingredient intended for use in a shaving composition to a solid shaving composite is not persuasive. Wdowik discloses, "The present invention is not limited to any single shaving composition, but rather to the concept of the inclusion of suitable particulate additives to any shaving composition, regardless of its form before or after it is applied, that is solid, gel, cream, liquid or aerosol." See col. 4, lines 56-60 in Wdowik. Wdowik teaches that the shaving composition could be in a solid form. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to provide the ingredients of a solid shaving composition, as taught by Wdowik, to another solid shaving composition, as taught by

Tseng, since both shaving compositions used as a shaving aid in the personal shaving process with a razor assembly.

***Conclusion***

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Mehta et al. (2006/0272155 A1), Creasy et al. (4,875,287), Slavtcheff et al. (2006/0225285), Aviza et al. (2005/0235495), Sandor et al. (2005/0011073), Tseng et al. (6,298,558), and Aviza (2005/0126007) teach a razor assembly having a shaving aid.

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ghassem Alie whose telephone number is (571) 272-4501. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

Art Unit: 3724

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Boyer Ashley can be reached on (571) 272-4502. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, SEE <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
BOYER D. ASHLEY  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

GA/ga

January 30, 2007